

Message

From: Neuschler, Catherine (MPCA) [catherine.neuschler@state.mn.us]
Sent: 2/15/2022 3:57:12 PM
To: Proto, Paul [proto.paul@epa.gov]; Keclik, Donna [keclik.donna@epa.gov]; Cole, William (MPCA) [william.cole@state.mn.us]
CC: Pfeifer, David [pfeifer.david@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: follow-up question on Birch Lake

Darren has indicated that 1854 does have the meta data and he will send it along. We'll see what all it has!

~Catherine

From: Proto, Paul <proto.paul@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 3:06 PM
To: Neuschler, Catherine (MPCA) <catherine.neuschler@state.mn.us>; Keclik, Donna <keclik.donna@epa.gov>; Cole, William (MPCA) <william.cole@state.mn.us>
Cc: Pfeifer, David <pfeifer.david@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: follow-up question on Birch Lake

Hi Catherine,

Thanks for your response. I think what we were interested in potentially understanding is whether or not 1854 had meta-data (e.g., location of where 1854 collected their samples, any QA/QC information on that data set, laboratory methods for sample analysis etc.) behind the sulfate data which 1854 included on their map (attached).

At a quick glance, it appears that the 1854 data from their map may be unique to 1854. Meaning, I don't think the 1854 data from the map overlaps with other sulfate sampling data collected via other sulfate sampling efforts (i.e., Northwest Minnesotans for Wilderness (NMW), USGS, etc.) presented in their 11/23/21 letter to MPCA. There may be some overlap with the 1854 5/11/2021 samples with samples from NMW on the same date, but the other dates referenced on the map look to be unique to 1854.

We felt if MPCA asked 1854 for the meta-data and additional detail/clarification behind information presented on the map, that would 1.) be good to understand and help round out their data set and MPCA's consideration of all existing and readily available data & 2.) help answer a potential future question which EPA may hear during tribal consultation and/or future discussions with our EPA HQ counterparts.

Have a nice afternoon,

Paul

Paul Proto | Environmental Scientist | U.S. EPA, Region 5, Water Division, Watersheds & Wetlands Branch
77 W. Jackson Blvd., WW-16J | Chicago, IL 60604 | 312-353-8657 (Office) | proto.paul@epa.gov

From: Neuschler, Catherine (MPCA) <catherine.neuschler@state.mn.us>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 1:55 PM
To: Keclik, Donna <keclik.donna@epa.gov>; Cole, William (MPCA) <william.cole@state.mn.us>
Cc: Proto, Paul <proto.paul@epa.gov>; Pfeifer, David <pfeifer.david@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: follow-up question on Birch Lake

Donna -

I had pretty much figured that we were not going to request any additional information at this time but address it globally as we discussed today. The specific comment from 1854 Treaty Authority speaks not only to their data but also to data from others, include the NMW data we discussed today.

If you think it would significantly strengthen our and your position, we could think it over. It just seemed unlikely to have us end up in a different place.

-Catherine

From: Keclik, Donna <keclik.donna@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 1:26 PM
To: Neuschler, Catherine (MPCA) <catherine.neuschler@state.mn.us>; Cole, William (MPCA) <william.cole@state.mn.us>
Cc: Proto, Paul <proto.paul@epa.gov>; Pfeifer, David <pfeifer.david@epa.gov>
Subject: follow-up question on Birch Lake

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Catherin, Bill,

Thank you for the discussion this morning on Birch Lake. There is one follow-up question which you might have covered but I don't have in my notes. I believe you mentioned that 1854 treaty group sent you the map with the table overlaid on the map mentioned in their comments that if you would like more information they could supply it.

My question is are you planning on requesting the additional information? This would help strengthen you argument that you looked at all the data supplied and that the State is taking this seriously. You still will need the QA information and methods used to collect the data.

Donna Keclik
Section Supervisor
Watersheds Section | Watersheds and Wetlands Branch
Water Division | Region 5 | U.S. EPA
77 W Jackson Blvd. WW-16J | Chicago IL 60604
312-886-6766 | keclik.donna@epa.gov

"Those who dwell, as scientists or laymen, among the beauties and mysteries of the earth, are never alone or weary of life."

— Rachel Carson

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